Program Changes for FY 05

We have begun a new fiscal year and it is time to advise you of some changes to the EST program that took effect July 1, 2004.

We plan to continue to support most training at an increased level much the same as we did in the last fiscal year. There will be some minor changes which I will review below.

Essentials of Firefighting remains far and away our most popular training program. We plan to continue to subsidize 100 per cent of the cost for Essentials training with one exception. EST will pay for up to twenty-five student manuals for any department. The department will be responsible for any additional manuals needed. We will continue to sell IFSTA manuals at cost plus 5% and shipping costs.

Flashover (FOT) training will be subsidized 100% for instructor costs and transportation costs by EST as long as class size meets minimum guidelines. All departments participating in FOT must submit certificates of Workmen's Comp Insurance coverage for their personnel in advance of the training – no exceptions. Host departments must furnish and pay for the ½ inch particle board, the scrap pallets, and the propane consumed during this training.

EST will pay 100% of the cost of Driver/Operator student manuals.

All technical rescue classes will be funded on a 50/50 basis.

All remaining fire classes will be coordinated using the traditional formula requiring the host department to pay $\frac{1}{2}$ of the instructor's base pay. EST will pay the remainder of the costs for fire training.

National Fire Academy classes will be run on a 75/25% basis until October 1, 2004. By that time, we will know if we will get an NFA grant for FY 2005. We will adjust support for NFA training once we know the disposition of funding from NFA for FY 2005.

EST will continue to fund 100% of Haz Mat Awareness and Operations training in FY 2005. Haz Mat Technician training will be subsidized on a 75/25% basis.

Extrication training will be subsidized on a 75/25% basis as long as class size is within guidelines.

Finally, Instructor pay rates have been adjusted upward. Level one instructors will be compensated at the rate of \$22.00 per hour in FY 2005.

Level two instructors will now be paid \$25.00 per hour. Mileage and per diem rates are set by the technical college which serves the area where the training occurs. All instructors will need to make sure they are registered with the college serving the area where a class is delivered. Automated payroll systems tend to discard part-time employees who have not drawn a paycheck within the past year, so be sure to check if you are current before teaching a class.

Please contact EST if you have any questions regarding this notice.

I hope you all have a safe, QUIET, and enjoyable Fourth of July holiday.

Jerry Schroeder, EST Program Manager